

the floor at the end of last week in colloquies going back and forth, late nights are to be expected.

We are at war. There is a war against terrorism. We are talking about security in Afghanistan and Iraq. It deserves the focus of this body. I have asked my colleagues to make their schedules available so we can have full participation. It does mean that during the days and, I suspect, well into the evenings this week, we will be participating in that debate. We do want to finish this emergency appropriations bill this week.

Again, as I mentioned, next week we will be out on recess and into the week after that. The President has made it very clear that the urgency demands we address this bill as soon as possible. That will be this week, and it is our intention to complete that this week.

I thank my colleagues in advance for what will be a challenging week for all of us. I expect the American people can be proud this week as we deliberate on the many complicated issues on which we will have votes to decide those issues and we will then complete our work on this request by the end of the week.

Mr. President, I yield the floor.

RESERVATION OF LEADER TIME

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, the leadership time is reserved.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Alaska, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business until the hour of 2 p.m., with the time equally divided and controlled in the usual form.

In my capacity as a Senator from the State of Alaska, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDENT pro tempore. Without objection, it is so ordered.

PUTTING \$87 BILLION INTO CONTEXT

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, my remarks will not be lengthy, but I entitle them as follows: "Putting \$87 Billion Into Context."

The Senate will soon consider the President's request for an additional \$87 billion to fund the U.S. occupation of Iraq and Afghanistan and to aid in their reconstruction.

The \$87 billion supplemental brings to a total of \$194 billion the amount the United States is spending in Iraq and Afghanistan. Let me repeat that. The \$87 billion supplemental brings to \$194 billion the amount the United States is spending in Iraq and Afghanistan, more than twice what the administration had led the public to believe just a few months ago.

The 1991 Persian Gulf war, by contrast, cost \$61 billion, of which the United States paid only \$7 billion. That is \$7 billion spent in 1991 compared to \$194 billion today, almost 28 times higher.

The Bush administration's \$87 billion supplemental request is the largest emergency spending request since 1977. The \$87 billion request, just for Iraq and Afghanistan, just for next year, roughly equals, in current dollars, the total amount of money spent to rebuild the entire continent of Europe after World War II. The request is larger than the \$74 billion the Defense Department plans to spend on all new weapons purchases next year. The request is more than twice the administration's entire \$35 billion homeland security budget for next year. That means that for every \$2 spent on the President's supplemental request for Iraq, the administration will spend less than \$1 on homeland security here at home.

The \$20 billion the President is seeking for Iraq's reconstruction is \$2 billion more than we are spending for foreign assistance for every other nation on the planet. The \$87 billion request is 50 percent more than we spend on education for the entire United States. Let me say that again. The \$87 billion request is 50 percent more than we spend on education for the entire Nation.

With \$194 billion spent or requested, the President's war spending in 2003 and 2004 already exceeds the inflation-adjusted cost of the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and the Persian Gulf war combined. The cost of the war and postwar occupation of Iraq will soon surpass the \$196 billion inflation-adjusted cost of World War I. The monthly bill for the United States military missions in Iraq and Afghanistan now rivals spending during the Vietnam war.

At \$87 billion, the President's request is larger than the economies of 166 countries. It is larger than the individual economies of almost half the States of the Union. That is a lot of money.

If approved, the President's request would increase the Federal budget deficit for fiscal year 2004 to \$535 billion; in other words, more than half a trillion dollars. I will say that once more. If approved, the President's request would increase the Federal budget deficit for fiscal year 2004 to \$535 billion.

The White House is now in danger of violating its own self-imposed limit for budget deficits, 6 percent of gross domestic product or \$600 billion.

The administration hopes it will receive an additional \$30 billion to \$55 billion from other countries and Iraqi oil revenue over the next 2 years, but that money may never materialize. Iraqi oil production is 1 million barrels per day less than before the war. The oil infrastructure has been hobbled by severe looting and sabotage. Certain pipelines have been struck by a series of attacks since the United Nations lifted sanctions this summer. Iraq's oil revenues are likely to fall short of even the most modest expectations of this administration.

As for the tens of billions of dollars the Bush administration is hoping to receive from other countries and international financial institutions, President Bush's request has fallen on deaf ears. The Bush administration has alienated most of the international community. After the Presidential swallowing of pride and having asked the United Nations for help, the Washington Post summed up the President's fundraising efforts with the headline, "Bush Fails To Gain Pledges On Troops Or Funds For Iraq."

Increasingly, it appears as if we are on our own in financing the occupation and the reconstruction of Iraq. I urge my colleagues to exercise patience before approving this request. This is not just an ordinary supplemental bill. This is not just a token amount of money. It is the beginning of a major commitment of resources in behalf of the American taxpayer. Before we act, we should make sure that taxpayers understand the size and consequences of this request and what will be asked of them in paying for it.

I yield the floor.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SUNUNU). The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. SUNUNU). Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time for the quorum call, which will be shortly announced, be charged equally to both sides.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. BOND. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.